



September 15, 2003

A combined contribution with  
-Cooperative Extension Service  
-USDA Farm Service Agency  
-The Oklahoma Mesonet

### Additional Rains Welcomed

**September 14-** Widely spread rain showers and thunderstorms crossed through parts of Oklahoma during the middle and latter part of the week bringing in some needed moisture. With the slowdown from the recent wet conditions, the harvest of corn, sorghum, and soybean were running behind normal for this time of year. The cool, wet weather should provide help to replenish serious moisture shortage that has persisted throughout the State and help to reduce stress to crops and pastures. The Southeast district received the most precipitation with 2.15 inches while the Southwest district received the least amount with 0.52 inches. Wheat planting made progress before being slowed by the rains. Small grain planting will resume and be in full swing as soon as soil conditions dry out. Some of the weekly reports arrived before weekend rains which influenced the soil moisture categories in the table below. Farmers had 4.5 days suitable for fieldwork during the week.

#### TOPSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	3	21	72	4
Last Week	10	21	66	3
Last Year	10	32	57	1

#### SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	17	35	47	1
Last Week	19	38	43	0
Last Year	18	35	47	0

**Small Grains:** Land preparation and planting progress continued where conditions allowed. Some delays occurred where fields were too wet, but planting in most areas are expected to resume soon. At week's end, 78 percent of the wheat ground had been prepared for seeding, slightly ahead of the normal pace. Wheat seeding picked up the pace during the week with 17 percent of the State's intended acreage now planted.

**Row Crops:** Although most of the row crops acreage has benefitted from the cooler temperatures and rainfall, it was too late to substantially improve crop conditions. Corn harvest jumped to 78 percent completed, 5 percentage points behind of the five average. Sorghum and soybeans advanced to 17 and 14 percent harvested, respectively, slightly behind of the normal pace. At week's end, 39 percent of the sorghum acreage had reached maturity. Sixty-three percent of peanut crop had reached maturity and a few isolated fields had been dug. Cotton with bolls opening gained 18 percentage points to 61 percent with harvest begining in the next few weeks.

#### ROW CROPS CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending September 14, 2003

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	0	3	18	32	47
Sorghum	4	33	35	27	1
Soybeans	8	17	40	31	4
Peanuts	0	10	46	39	5
Cotton	6	14	44	30	6

**Hay:** Both alfalfa and other hay were rated in mostly fair to good condition. The additional moisture has encouraged growth in many hay fields. Hay cutting and baling continued where possible. The fourth and fifth cutting of alfalfa reached 68 and 7 percent cut, respectively. The second cutting of other hay gained 3 percentage points to 74 percent cut.

#### HAY CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending September 14, 2003

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	4	13	46	32	5
Other Hay	7	23	43	24	3

**Pasture:** Pasture and range conditions ranged from poor to good condition. Pasture continued to improve and were greening-up in most parts of the State. Many producers have fertilized grasses for extra forage production this fall due to the shortage of hay.

**Livestock:** Some producers were still supplemental feeding livestock but was less frequent with pasture conditions improving. Livestock conditions were rated mostly fair to good. Livestock insect activities were rated as light to moderate. Cattle auctions were still recording high prices for the week. The price for feeder steers less than 800 pounds increased from last week by one dollar and fifty-six cents per cwt. and averaged \$102.89 per cwt. The average price for feeder heifers less than 800 pounds also increased from last week by one dollar and seventy-nine cents per cwt. and averaged \$95.44 per cwt

#### LIVESTOCK CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending September 14, 2003

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Livestock	1	4	28	53	14
Pasture & Range	7	21	44	26	2

Oklahoma Crop-Weather Summary  
2800 N. Lincoln Blvd.  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105

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TIME DATED MATERIAL

OKLAHOMA CROP PROGRESS									
Week Ending September 14, 2003									
Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 - Yr. Avg.	Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 - Yr. Avg.
Wheat -					Soybeans -				
Seedbed Prepared	78	67	83	77	Blooming	96	94	99	94
Planted	17	7	21	13	Setting Pods	92	89	96	90
Rye -					Mature	35	29	44	47
Seedbed Prepared	79	67	83	71	Harvested	14	8	19	22
Planted	30	19	28	16	Peanuts -				
Oats -					Mature	63	55	43	32
Seedbed Prepared	59	48	72	66	Dug	1	N/A	1	1
Planted	3	N/A	8	6	Cotton -				
Corn -					Bolls Opening	61	43	39	51
Mature	78	59	83	83	Alfalfa -				
Harvested	41	36	47	53	4 <sup>th</sup> Cutting	68	63	88	64
Sorghum -					5 <sup>th</sup> Cutting	7	2	25	16
Headed	95	90	95	96	Other Hay -				
Coloring	75	67	77	76	2 <sup>nd</sup> Cutting	74	71	84	61
Mature	39	32	55	37					
Harvested	17	14	34	20					

**WEATHER FOR WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 14, 2003** - Temperatures ranged from 50 degrees at Beaver on Tuesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> to 91 degrees at Antlers on Thursday, September 4<sup>th</sup>. Precipitation averaged 0.00 in. West Central district to 2.17 in. Southeast district. Soil temperatures averaged 62 degrees at Woodward on Monday, September 1<sup>st</sup> to 82 degrees at Idabel on Monday, September 1<sup>st</sup> and at Erick, Sulphur, and Tipton on Saturday, September, 6<sup>th</sup>.

MESONET TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA							
Week Ending September 14, 2003							
Districts	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	This Week	September 1, 2003 to September 14, 2003		
					Total	Departure from Normal	Percent of Normal
	Degrees			Inches			
Panhandle	79	56	67	0.74	1.07	+0.19	122
West Central	82	60	70	1.12	1.12	-0.29	79
Southwest	83	62	72	0.52	0.56	-1.02	35
North Central	80	60	70	0.94	0.95	-0.51	65
Central	79	61	70	1.59	1.95	+0.03	101
South Central	80	63	71	2.03	3.24	+1.22	160
Northeast	78	62	70	1.31	2.20	-0.03	99
East Central	79	63	71	1.31	3.02	+0.70	130
Southeast	82	64	72	2.15	4.25	+2.12	199